

SENIOR LEADER BIOGRAPHY

Headquarters, United States European Command



CAPT Gary P. Weeden, CHC, USN Command Chaplain

Chaplain Weeden was born in Washington D.C., and raised in Northern Virginia. Upon graduation from high school, he enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard and served from 1977-1981. Additionally, Chaplain Weeden served in the Oregon Air National Guard from 1985-1987 as a Staff Sergeant.

While a student at the Western Seminary, he was commissioned as an ensign in the U.S. Naval Reserve as a Theological Student Programs Officer in February 1987 and completed the U.S. Navy Chaplain School Basic Course at the NETC, Newport, R.I. He was ordained and served on the Pastoral Staff at McLean Bible Church, McLean, Va. He is endorsed by the National Association of Evangelicals.



Weeden has served with commands from all three sea services. From 1988-1991, he served as the Staff Chaplain at Naval Training Center and Naval Recruit Command, Great Lakes, Ill. From 1991-93, he served as Command Chaplain aboard USS Fox (CG 33), deploying in support of Operation Desert Storm. From 1993-97, he served as plank owner District Chaplain of the Ninth Coast Guard District, Cleveland, Ohio. From 1997-98, he was selected for post graduate studies. Weeden was assigned to Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C., from 1998-2001, and then served as Group Chaplain for Commander, Amphibious Force Seventh Fleet/Amphibious Group One, Okinawa, Japan until 2003.

Upon graduation from the Naval War College in Newport, R.I. in 2003, Weeden served in a special assignment as Deputy Chaplain for U.S. Central Command. Following this tour, Weeden served as director for CREDO Navy Region Northeast. From July 2006 - October 2008, he was assigned as Command Chaplain at the U.S. Coast Guard Academy, New London, Conn., followed by a tour as Area Chaplain for U.S. Coast Guard Atlantic Area, Portsmouth, Va. From 2010 to 2014, he served as the Ninth Chaplain of the Coast Guard. He assumed duties as the director of the Command Chaplain's office for U.S. European Command on March 28, 2014.

Weeden holds a bachelor's degree in Biblical Studies from Washington Bible College, Lanham, Md.; a Master of Divinity from Western Seminary, Portland, Ore.; a Master of Theology from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, Deerfield, Ill.; and a Master of Arts in National Strategy and Security Studies from the U.S. Naval War College in Newport, R.I.

Personal decorations include: Legion of Merit; Defense Meritorious Service Medal; Meritorious Service Medal (5 awards); the Coast Guard Commendation Medal; Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (2 awards), USCG Achievement Medal, Air Force Achievement Medal, USCG Good Conduct Award, and numerous unit awards, campaign and service medals.